

DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES

Director's Report Policy & Fiscal Affairs Board November 1, 2012

The Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS) appreciates the significant support of the Board of County Commissioners and the Policy and Fiscal Affairs Board. We continue to receive approval to refill necessary positions when Best Practices and safety and security of youth and staff are in the balance.

Personnel/Budget

DJJS is currently budgeted for FY 2012/2013 - \$43 million.

3-Supervisor positions refilled

4-Targeted Case Management Grant Juvenile Probation Officer positions on HOLD until more stable projections are secured. Targeted Case Management (TCM) dollars continue to decline,

The Department would like to thank the Judiciary for their continued support of Departmental initiatives. The Judiciary has recently funded the continued *Thinking for a Change Cognitive Behavioral Therapy* training, incentive activities for youth at SMYC, and the purchase of safety equipment for our Officers in the field.

The Department has a new employee recognition committee. The *County Appreciation of Recognized Employees* (C.A.R.E.) The committee is working to raise money through fun fundraising activities in an effort to improve our recognition of our outstanding teammates.

Community Issues

The Department has been coordinating various community services events to provide assistance to youth and families, prior to the youth being involved in the juvenile justice system. The Department, in conjunction with Judiciary, has conducted three Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Town Hall meetings. The DMC committee established three working sub-committees:

1. Low risk youth
2. High risk youth
3. Education sub-committee

A small group of staff and community stakeholders recently conducted a visit to a Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) model site to learn more strategies surrounding keeping minority youth diverted from the juvenile justice system. Several ideas were gathered that are currently being discussed with community stakeholders to determine the viability in Clark County. This was funded out of Annie E. Casey grant dollars.

Spring Mountain Youth Camp (SMYC) and Spring Mountain Residential Center (SMRC)

Spring Mountain Youth Camp

- Football Team is 7-1. There is a home playoff game on November 2nd, at 1 P.M.
- Four (4) staff participated in Instructor training for “*Thinking for a Change*”
 - Six (6) staff were certified in *Thinking for a Change*
 - Six (6) staff will be trained in November.
- Staff and youth worked with Nevada Partners to run a *Culinary Program* at camp. Nevada Partners has been offering youth released from SMYC aftercare services.
- Summer Forestry Program involved 52 youth and 11 staff. This allows several thousands of visitors each year to use and enjoy the Spring Mountain/Mt Charleston Area.

- Conducted numerous community service projects with the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority.

Spring Mountain Residential Center

- Youth and staff have also participated in numerous community service events with the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority, Water District, Booker Elementary, Matt Kelley Elementary, Doolittle and Pearson Community Centers.
- Staff and youth participated with the National Parks Service with clean-up projects at the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Juvenile Detention

- Average Detention population statistics
2012 - **130** youth
2011 - 164 youth
2010 - 180 youth
Three month statistics (11,700 bed days)
7.02 hours - average time a youth spends in his room
3 - Youth on staff assaults
8 - Youth on youth fights
1 - OC Spray
3 - Safety restraint chair episodes
- Pilot Project of two (2) laptops are being used in the Detention Review & Release Program (DRRP) while in the field.
- The Division is researching the **Red Flag Training**. This training is similar to the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and will increase our best practice standards in the Detention Division.
- The Juvenile Detention Center is focusing on reducing room confinement by identifying alternate measures when a youth commits a tier infraction.

Probation Division

Before a youth completes their probation requirements, they are held responsible for completing their court ordered classes. Probation coordinates the following services and programs in the individual neighborhood probation centers.

- Risk-Needs strength-based services and supervision
- Collaboration and activities with Project Safe Neighborhood Initiatives
- Enhancement of activities with local law enforcement to reduce delinquency
- Home detention and electronic monitoring
- Substance Abuse Education and Treatment Services
- Petty Larceny program
- Repeat Offenders Programs
- Gang Prevention, Diversion and Intervention
- Graffiti Abatement Program
- Sex Offender Specific Treatment Services
- Sexually Exploited Youth Treatment Services
- Youth Firesetter Intervention
- Mentoring
- Life Skills development
- Parental skills development classes

- Educational assistance
- Alternative community-based residential treatment services
- Domestic Violence/Anger Management/Conflict Resolution/Bullying
- Critical Decision Making
- Teen Pregnancy Prevention
- Thinking For a Change
- Youth and Family Counseling
- Responsible Choices
- Vocational development classes

Clinical Services (Psychological Unit)

- Expanded Internship program – 5 practicum students from UNLV.
- We are working with Bridge Counseling to offer substance abuse programming at one of our Probation Centers, hopefully expand in January.
- Aftercare position filled. This position works with youth transitioning from Spring Mountain Youth Camp back into the community and their families.
- Working to reduce the number of youth being placed in residential treatment centers outside of the home and/or community.
- Clinical Services provides to youth and their families:
 - Assessments
 - Case management
 - Counseling services
- Meet with new providers to determine if those agencies can meet the needs of DJJS clients
- Clinical Services, Detention, and Nursing have started meeting in order to work on ways to improve the administering and coordinating of medication for youth.

Diversion Court – 9/1/2011 to 8/31/2012

- There have been **160** youth referred from Probation Intake to Diversion Court since 9/1/2011.
- Diversion Court has graduated **58** youth successfully from the program.
- However, **57** youth were unsuccessfully discharged from the program.
- Of those **57** youth, **32** were placed on Formal Probation; **4** youth were placed on Consent Decree; **17** were closed negative with no further action; **2** youth have active Bench Writs; **2** youth are pending their initial Delinquency Plea Hearing.
- Diversion Court excused **1** youth without prejudice (not a successful completion or a negative termination).
- As of this reporting date, **44** youth are still active in the Diversion Court process.